

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
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P R 161420Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5079
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMCONSUL MUNICH
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY SOFIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE WARSAW 4105

ROME FOR VATICAN OFFICE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR PL
SUBJ: AGREEMENT REPORTED ON PERMANENT VATICAN REPRESENTATION IN
WARSAW

1. BERNARD MARGUERITTE, THE LE FIGARO CORRESPONDENT IN WARSAW,
TOLD AN EMBASSY OFFICER MAY 15 THAT THE VATICAN AND THE POLISH
REGIME HAVE REACHED AN AGREEMENT TO ESTABLISH PERMANENT VATICAN
REPRESENTATION IN WARSAW. MARGUERITTE SAID HE HAD HAD TO SWEAR
NOT TO RELEASE THE STORY BEFORE MAY 16, WHEN ARCHBISHOP POGGI,
THE VATICAN DIPLOMAT WHO PERIODICALLY VISITS WARSAW, IS DUE TO
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ARRIVE FOR A THREE WEEK STAY.

2. THE NEW AGREEMENT MAY OR MAY NOT BE ANNOUNCED PUBLICLY
DURING POGGI'S VISIT, MANLUERITTE SAID. ACCORDING TO MARGUERITTE'S
INFORMATION, THE VATICAN REPRESENTATIVE WILL HAVE A STATUS
LESS THAN THAT OF A FULL PAPAL NUNCIO; THUS HIS PRESENCE WOULD
FALL ONE STEP SHORT OF ESTABLISHMENT OF FORMAL DIPLOMATIC

RELATIONS BETWEEN THE GOP AND THE VATICAN. THE REPRESENTATIVE WILL, HOWEVER, OCCUPY THE BUILDING IN WHICH THE WARSAW NUNCIO FORMERLY LIVED, NOW USED BY THE EPISCOPAL PRESS OFFICE.

3. MARGUERITTE ALSO SAID HE HAS AN ADVANCE COPY OF AN EPISCOPAL LETTER TO BE READ IN POLISH CHURCHES MAY 21. HE SAID IT IS A STRONG STATEMENT OF THE NEED TO REAFFIRM POLISH NATIONALITY AND CULTURE.

4. COMMENT: ESTABLISHMENT OF PERMANENT VATICAN REPRODUCTION IN WARSAW HAS BEEN RUMORED HERE FOR SOME TIME. CARDINAL WYSZYNSKI HAS LONG BEEN KNOWN TO BE RESISTANT TO SUCH A MOVE, CONCERNED THAT IT WOULD DETRACT FROM HIS DETERMINATIVE ROLE IN CHURCH-STATE RELATIONS IN POLAND. RECENTLY, HOWEVER, HE HAS REPORTEDLY BEEN RESIGNED TO ITS INEVITABILITY. IF MARGUERITTE'S INFORMATION IS ACCURATE AND THE VATICAN REPRESENTATIVE WILL HAVE LESS THAN AMBASSADORIAL STATUS, WYSZYNSKI WOULD RETAIN HIS PREEMINENT ROLE VIS-A-VIS THE REGIME, BUT IT WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY BE SOMEWHAT DILUTED.

END COMMENT.
SCHAUFLE

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